Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

Jobless rates down in 83 counties from January 2012 to January 2013

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EDITOR'S NOTE: January's preliminary and December's revised county unemployment rate charts are posted at http://www.workforcekentucky.ky.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=478. Acrobat Reader is required to view charts. To download Acrobat Reader, please see the end of this news release.

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 14, 2013) — Unemployment rates fell in 83 Kentucky counties between January 2012 and January 2013, while 33 county rates increased and four stayed the same, according to the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, an agency of the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.

Woodford County recorded the lowest jobless rate in the Commonwealth at 5.9 percent. It was followed by Fayette County, 6.5 percent; Oldham County, 6.6 percent; Shelby County, 6.7 percent; Madison County, 7 percent; Franklin County, 7.1 percent; Daviess and Scott counties, 7.2 percent each; and Anderson, Hancock and Union counties, 7.3 percent each.

Magoffin County recorded the state's highest unemployment rate — 18.8 percent. It was followed by Letcher County, 16.9 percent; Leslie County, 16.4 percent; Harlan County, 15.8 percent; Fulton County, 15.2 percent; Jackson and Knott counties, 15.1 percent each; Bell County 14.7 percent; Menifee County, 14.6 percent; and McCreary County, 14.4 percent.

Unemployment statistics are based on estimates and are compiled to measure trends rather than actually to count people working. Civilian labor force statistics include non-military workers and unemployed Kentuckians who are actively seeking work. They do not include unemployed Kentuckians who have not looked for employment within the past four weeks. The statistics in this news release are not seasonally adjusted to allow for comparisons between United States, state and county figures.

Learn more about Kentucky labor market information at www.kylmi.ky.gov.